



USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were unchanged in the West and East, but unchanged to slightly higher in the Midwest. Trade sentiment was mostly steady. Retail demand was seasonally light to fair with some improvements reported for first of the month, but best where other holiday items were featured. Food service was light to moderate, good for fast food. Supplies were usually sufficient, more available for heavier weights. In the parts structure, trading was light and selective to fair. Breast items and wings were in balance, and dark meat was at least adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

Final report of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 4/05/04-04/09/04 (cents per lb)

AREAS	US GRADE A		COMPOSITE		
	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS	WTD AVG	LOADS
Bos/New Eng	74.00-77.00	74.53	15	70.69	36
Chicago	71.00-74.00	73.99	36	76.42	71
Ohio Cities	TFEWR	---	---	75.64	21
Denver	78.50	78.50	14	79.00	16
Detroit	72.00-75.00	74.83	12	75.80	46
Los Angeles	79.00	78.97	61	81.16	134
New York	75.00-77.00	76.04	23	76.25	48
Philadelphia	75.50-77.00	76.19	13	75.71	24
Pittsburgh	76.00-78.00	76.83	12	76.57	57
St. Louis	73.25-73.50	72.80	22	72.15	49
San Francisco	79.50	80.03	32	81.72	62

Composite Weighted Average

Loads	04/05/04	Change/Last Wk	03/29/04	04/07/03
564	76.96	0.19	76.77	57.71

WOG BROILERS (without giblets) - prices paid per lb delv'd to first receivers in trucklot and less than trucklot quantities.

REGIONS	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	LOADS
East	77.00-79.00	78.17	34
Central	72.00-80.00	78.81	68
West	81.00-85.00	83.28	35
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent			
Mississippi	73.50-75.00	74.41	81

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.25 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

LOADS	RANGE	MONDAY FINAL WTD AVG FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT
998	66.50-82.00	73.15

The Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed final weighted average prices on ice packed parts:

ITEM	WTD AVG (CENTS PER POUND)	VOLUME (000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	256.50	1,411
BREASTS - B/S	228.50	5,636
BREASTS - WHOLE	122.00	1,950
THIGH MEAT - B/S	114.50	1,053
LEG QUARTERS	34.50	8,260
WINGS	129.50	2,987

THIS INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S POULTRY MARKET NEWS SERVICE

SOUTHERN Trade sentiment was generally steady following the week-end. As Easter approaches, demand was seasonally light with buying interest best for more traditional holiday meat items. Supplies were usually sufficient to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was slow to fair with supplies of all items at least adequate or available. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mostly desirable weights.

WESTERN Final majority prices unchanged from last week. The market tone was generally steady. Trading reported for this week's deliveries at mainly unchanged prices. Offerings easily adequate for full trade needs. Buying activity was fair as expected. Retailer demand, although focused on holiday items, was moderate at best. Dealers reported satisfactory weekend clearances. The market tone was mixed on parts with white meat items still in the strongest position. Reported trading activity on parts for this week's delivery: leg quarters 34-37.5 bulk and 4/10s mainly 37.5, breast bone-in 121-128 and boneless 210-227, wings 126-127. The Los Angeles negotiated WOG weighted average was 83.70 down .69 with the volume unchanged from last week's deliveries at 27 loads.

MIDWEST Final majority prices were unchanged to higher into Detroit and St. Louis, unchanged elsewhere; Ohio cities TFEWR from last Monday's final. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was steady. Buyer interest and offerings were light. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate, instances fairly good; some improvement noted for first of month. Floor stocks adequate to at times long. Weights mostly desirable. Offerings of leg quarters adequate, drums and thighs fully adequate; breast items were in balance for the most part. Market tone was mixed on wings, steady to fully steady on breast items and barely steady to weak on dark meat items.

NORTHEAST Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was light and unaggressive entering the week. Offering of the 3 pound and lighter birds ranged adequate to balanced. The larger sizes were adequate to available. Retail and distributive movement was seasonally slow. The market tone was mostly steady. In the parts complex, breast items were increasingly available. Dark meat cuts were at least sufficient. Wings were generally adequate.

DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds was generally noted as improved compared to last Friday, but seasonally slow to fair at best. Seller offerings were fully adequate. Live supplies were moderate; weights varied in a full range of light to heavy. Processor schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 76 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was about steady. In the parts complex, bone-in and boneless skinless thighs were in generally good balance. Other items were fully sufficient.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

BRANDED U.S. GRADE A	
RANGE	74-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE	79.73
NO. OF BOXES	6,715
*7 of 7 plants reporting.	

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS Trucklot buying activity was cautious and selective entering the week. Offerings of breast items were adequate to available with spot discounting noted to clear excess product. Wings were generally sufficient. Dark meat items were at least adequate. Retail draw was seasonally light to fair at best. Distributive draw was limited. The market tone was cautious on breast items and no better than steady on the balance.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ITEM	NEGOTIATED	CURRENT	WTD	VOLUME
	TRADING		AVG	LBS
BREAST - B/S	220		217.94	553,840
TENDERLOINS	235		222.63	128,820
BREAST - WITH RIBS	114-115		121.48	119,320
BREAST - LINE RUN	114		112.60	132,160
LEGS	42-43		43.91	284,560
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	33-34		33.36	478,659
DRUMSTICKS	31-32		38.26	146,000
THIGHS	42-43		48.40	85,120
B/S THIGHS	110-111		108.40	62,300
WINGS (WHOLE)	116-117		125.76	153,520
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12		11.95	34,280
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40		30.69	12,760
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60		60.74	14,760

INCLUDES NEW YORK CITY METROPOLITAN AREA, NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, MASSACHUSETTS, CONNECTICUT, RHODE ISLAND, AND PENNSYLVANIA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).

* TODAY'S NEGOTIATED SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPED, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

ARKANSAS BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	LBS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WT. AVG
BREAST - B/S	2,585	159.00-261.00	208-218	212.02
TENDERLOINS	783	230.00-242.00	-	230.04
BREAST - WITH RIBS	209	114.00-129.00	116-118	118.58
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	1,261	29.00-33.00	29-31	30.97
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	2,094	33.00-35.00	33-34	33.26
WINGS (WHOLE)		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS	1,219	27.00-45.00	38-43	41.47

ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	ACTUAL	AVG WTS
	04/05	04/01	04/01	03/29	03/25
	(1,000)	(1,000)		(1,000)	
ALA	3,718	3,623	5.22	3,825	5.12
ARK	5,359	5,340	4.92	5,157	4.99
DELMARVA	2,197	2,126	5.49	1,929	5.43
KY-LA-TN	1,789	1,955	4.89	2,043	4.88
MISS	3,116	3,087	5.38	3,059	5.43
NC	2,401	2,372	6.30	2,365	6.28
TEXAS	2,297	2,340	5.02	2,393	5.05
TOTAL	20,877	20,843	5.26	20,771	5.27
MON	20,877(A)			20,771(A)	

(A) Weekly cumulative for states listed above. Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 05-Apr 2004 is estimated to be 31,234,000 up 0.21 percent from a week ago and up 1.87 percent from a year ago. (Last week 31,169,000; last year 30,661,000)

SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS F.O.B. DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, ICED-PACKED, PRICES SHOWN ARE DAY OF SHIPMENT (INCLUDES CURRENT AND PRIOR NEGOTIATIONS), TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUME, CENTS PER POUND.

ITEM	POUNDS (000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	882	205.00-296.00	205-210	216.91
TENDERLOINS	225	228.00-278.00	228-237	237.87
BREAST - LINE RUN	113	114.00-127.00	115-118	118.00
FRONT HALVES		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
LEGS	121	36.00-56.00	37-39	38.33
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	555	30.00-33.00	30-31	30.77
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,045	29.00-35.00	32-33	33.02
WINGS (WHOLE)	307	120.00-135.00	122-126	124.31
WINGS (CUT)	551	137.00-142.00	137-140	138.74
DRUMSTICKS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
THIGHS		TOO FEW TO REPORT		
B/S THIGHS	102	105.00-122.00	-	112.39

WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS

TRADING FOR APRIL 05, 2004 — F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE	TODAY'S AVERAGE	5-DAY AVERAGE
69.00 - 74.00	71.33	71.45

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYER ICE-PACKED POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES DELIVERED TO: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, AND WI WEEK OF 05-09-APR-2004

CENTS PER POUND	Price Per Lb.	Mostly
BREAST - B/S	210.00 - 227.00	210.00 - 220.00
BREAST - LINE RUN	111.00 - 130.00	115.00 - 118.00
LEGS	33.00 - 50.00	-
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	29.00 - 36.00	33.00 - 34.00
DRUMSTICKS	28.00 - 43.00	-
THIGHS	45.00 - 53.00	-
WINGS (WHOLE)	119.00 - 134.00	122.00 - 124.00
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	12.00 - 20.00	-
LIVERS	30.00 - 41.00	-
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	35.00 - 45.00	-

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
WOGS 2# & UP - WHOLE	91.75-92
WOGS 2# & UP - CUT UP 8&9 PIECES	94.25-98.25
FROZEN HENS 5# & UP	
FROZEN DUCKS	
FROZEN SQUABS	585-600

DELIVERED TO RETAILERS IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA)

FRESH FRYERS	93-99
ROASTERS 4# & UP	95-105
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	71-77
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY

DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	104-113
ICE PACK	104
ROASTERS 4# & UP	107-109
ICE PACK	105-107
HENS OVER 5#	88-93
ICE PACK	93-95
DRY PACK	162-185
DUCKS	

EASTERN REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE EASTERN REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

02-APR-2004
CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	13.50-16.00	-	960,000	520,000
WTD AVERAGE	14.96			
15-20%				
RANGE	12.00-19.00	12.50-16.00	2,077,600	996,000
WTD AVERAGE	16.56	13.38		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE		12.00	200,000	-
WTD AVERAGE		12.00		

* INCLUDES THE STATES of CT, DE, FL, GA, MA, MD, ME, NC, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WV

SOUTHEAST LIVE HEAVY HEN Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for offerings that were at least adequate. Processing schedules were reported as less than normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 05-APR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-10.25	8.75-9.25	8.97
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

CENTRAL REGION MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN

F.O.B. SHIPPER DOCK OR EQUIVALENT, PRICES NEGOTIATED FOR MECHANICALLY SEPARATED CHICKEN IN THE CENTRAL REGION IN TRUCKLOT AND LESS THAN TRUCKLOT VOLUMES, CENTS PER POUND, DELIVERY WITHIN TWO WEEKS.

02-APR-2004
CHICKEN — PRICES — VOLUME —
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

CHICKEN, WITH SKIN ADDED — PRICES — VOLUME —
 (Cents per Pound)

FAT CONTENT	FROZEN	FRESH	TOTAL	EXPORT
15% OR LESS				
RANGE	16.00	13.00-15.00	202,400	100,400
WTD AVERAGE	16.00	13.67		
15-20%				
RANGE	13.00-17.00	11.00-15.00	2,669,600	1,857,600
WTD AVERAGE	13.89	14.19		
20% OR MORE				
RANGE	-	-	-	-
WTD AVERAGE				

* INCLUDES THE STATES of AL, AR, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MI, MN, MO, MS, ND, NE, OK, OH, SD, TN, TX, WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices were at near unchanged levels from the past week. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were fair. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP)*

Final Price, generally for slaughter the week of 05-APR-04

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-12 CENTS/LB.	8.75-9.5	9.04

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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